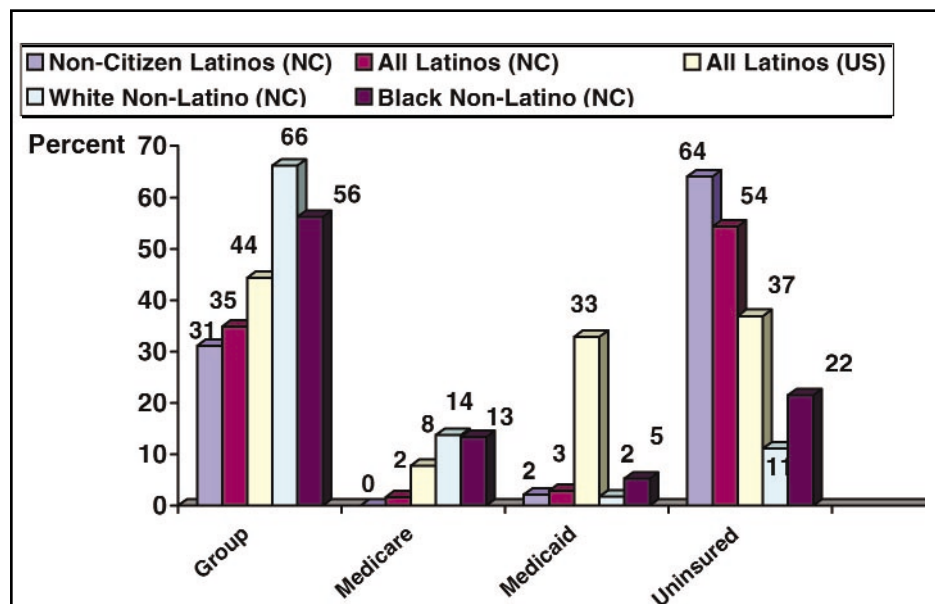


The Task Force heard presentations from the construction, hotel and poultry industries in North Carolina. Health insurance coverage was often offered to the Latino workers, but not all Latinos were able to afford or saw the need for the coverage offered.

North Carolinian Latinos are more likely to be uninsured than Latinos nationally (Chart 7:1). More than half (64%) of the Latino non-citizens in North Carolina are uninsured. This compares with 54% of all North Carolina Latinos, and 37% of Latinos in the United States. Further, North Carolina Latinos have a higher chance of being uninsured than non-Latino whites (11%) or African Americans (22%) in North Carolina. Fewer Latinos in North Carolina or the United States have private group-based insurance coverage. The percentage of farmworkers who are uninsured is even higher because most farmworkers in North Carolina are not covered by any employer-based plans.³ Latino adults nationally are more likely to be covered by publicly-funded programs like Medicaid (33%), but this is not true for North Carolina Latino adults (3%).

Chart 7:1
Insurance Status for Latino Adults (18 or older)⁴



Source: US Census. Current Population Survey (2000, 2001, 2002). Totals do not equal 100% because Champus and private, non-group insurance are excluded from chart.

Similarly, Latino children are more likely to be uninsured (Chart 7:2). Almost one-half (48%) of non-citizen Latino children younger than 18 years of age are uninsured, compared to 29% of all Latino children in North Carolina. North Carolina Latino youth are slightly more likely to be uninsured than are Latino youth nationally (26%), and are significantly more likely to be uninsured than non-Latino white children in North Carolina (8%) or non-Latino black children (15%).